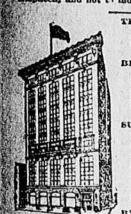
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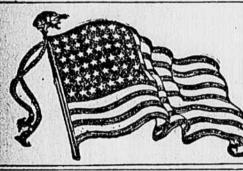
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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1917.



Why is a food administrator? Answer may be found in the fact that 1,200 barrels of sugar have been found stored away in a Norfolk winery warehouse. It has been ordered distributed, and will go far toward relieving the present famine.

Combining the Christmas spirit with the patriotic spirit enlarges the opportunities for service. Moved by this combination spirit, John McCormack, the tenor, has just announced a gift of \$100,000 to the Red Cross. which he will raise by making a patriotic concert tour from the Atlantic to the Pacific. paying his own expenses and applying all the receipts to the gift. The spirit is catching, and there are limitless opportunities for its exemplification.

Machinery for the war savings campaign in Richmond is being set up rapidly by Director Litchford, and soon its wheels will be revolving merrily and turning out many thousands of new converts to thrift. The mark set by the Treasury Department for this city is \$3,000,000, to be reached in twelve months. With the memory of what has been done in other campaigns and the will to do in this, there can be no doubt of ultimate success. The \$3,000,000 saved will bs worth many times that amount in the lessons it will have taught.

Only in the District of Columbia may all kinds of game birds be sold legally. In all the States and Territories stringent laws for their protection have been enacted. Through the open market in the District the game laws of Virginia are largely negatived. It presents an anomalous condition which should be remedied. For the sake of consistency, Congressmen should be willing to forego their out-of-season delicacies. Such action would put an end to the pot hunter and be a long step forward in game conservation.

annual custom, The Times-Dispatch to-day will make its collection of clothing for the worthy poor. Do not permit the opportunity to be of real service to your less fortunate fellow-creatures to pass unheeded. Winter's bitter cold is here, and there is little fuel. Suffering and distress must not go unrelieved. Wrap up your bundles of clothes for which you have no further use, take them to the fire station nearest your home, and The Times-Dispatch will collect and put them in the hands of the Associated Charities. Your thoughtfulness will bring happiness to many heavy hearts.

Secretary Daniels's "We are ready now" for the navy unhappily finds no echo from the country's merchant marine, that arm on which we must in the end rise or fall. Over the wires from Washington come driblets of news within the past week which tell of the first ship launched under the government's shipbuilding plan, and of Chairman Hurley hammering in the first rivet in the first fabricated steel vessel for the Emergency fleet Corporation. And war was declared more than eight months ago. Perhaps it is he penalty the administration must pay for having placed a lawyer and an army officer in charge of its great shipbuilding undertaking. "Every man to his trade" is as applicable in war as it is in peace.

Brigadier-General Lloyd M. Brett, commandant at Camp Lee, is no new convert to he principle of universal military training. A soldier of long and practical experience, he has seen what such training does for those so fortunate as to receive it, and with broad and patriotic vision, as well as with s full understanding of the country's acute ecessities, he bespeaks this discipline for all young men that they may be endued with the great American spirit of American ide: 3 and American ideals." General Brett's statement, made to The Times-Dispatch, is in horough accord with the best military thought of the United States. Public sentiment has crystallized rapidly in its favor durng the past years of unpreparedness, and were is reason to believe that the administration is ready to support such a measure. at least tacitly, when it comes before Congress. There can be no better time for action than now, The cantonments are ready, long journey.

the necessary machinery is at hand and the country at large approves. Make the canton-ments permanent and never again will this country be compelled to face such conditions as have existed since it first became evident that war with a great world power could not be avoided.

Must Face Coal Problem

A RRIVAL of frigid winter weather through-out most of the Eastern and Middle Western States has brought the problem of supplying fuel to the American people to a sudden climax, and is taxing the utmost resources of the government, the railroads and the coal producers. It may be assumed that all three interests are straining every energy to give the people coal, but it must be admitted by them that acute shortages still exist in every State within the grip of the cold wave.

Rigid orders have been issued by the United States fuel administration to both the railroads and the coal operators to deliver fuel where the need is greatest. But it is one thing to sit at a mahogany desk in a comfortable office in Washington and sign mandatory orders, and quite another thing to execute those orders. There is plenty of law and authority on the side of the fuel administration, but written statutes and official decrees do not dig coal, do not load it on cars, do not deliver it to the market and do not lay it down in the bin of the consumer.

All this has been found out by the government since it took over the nation's coal industry. The officials in Washington have learned that there are elements in the present situation which mere acts of Congress cannot remedy. There can be no doubt that Dr. Garfield is determined that the American people shall have an ample supply of coal to keep them warm and an ample supply to keep the vital industries going at full speed, but he has not the power to produce the cars needed to haul this coal, nor the power to compel the railroads to furnish these cars or to move them in any given direction. That power resides in a priority commissioner who is a railroad man, and who has issued an order giving four other classes of shipments preference before coal for domestic consumption may be hauled.

Unless orderly means are found to relieve the fuel situation, we fear the government is going to experience a new type of rebellion in this country. Communities which are without fuel, but through which long coal trains are passing daily, will take the law into their own hands. They will take by force what they cannot get through appeal. Already Mayors of many cities have boldly commandeered coal supplies found within their jurisdiction. These Mayors have been threatened with prosecution, but even the government knows that no jury will ever be found to convict such officials, whose only crime is the protection of their people from freezing.

Governor Cox, of Ohio, is no anarchist. He is the very able and patriotic executive of a great State, but even he gives fair warning to the government that the people of Ohio will not longer suffer great quantities of coal to leave its borders while tens of thousands of them are crying out for barely enough fuel to meet their emergency demands. "They will lose confidence in the government," he telegraphs to Washington, which simply means that they will act for themselves if their condition compels them

War With Bulgaria and Turkey

IT must be assumed that the President has good reason for his opposition to a declaration of war against Bulgaria and Turkey. It is now realized that he was prompted in his reluctance formally to recognize the existence of a state of war between this country and Austria by very serious considerations. These considerations were not confided to the country until after a decision had been reached that war should come, they were no less important because of that

The attitude of this government toward Austria, prior to the declaration of war, was equivocal, even absurd. It was preposterous that the United States should be devoting its resources and energies against a nation with which the United States was at peace. In a remote way, the attitude of America toward Bulgaria and Turkey is not far different. This country is seeking to defeat Germany This is Bundle Day. In keeping with its | and Austria, which, in effect, means the defeat of the two lesser nations. And yet neither American men nor American money is being directly employed against either the Turks or the Bulgarians. In other words, these allies of Germany have not ventured within the range of our fire.

Meantime, it is not altogether fair on the part of the government's critics to charge consistency against President Wilson beause he promises aid to Roumania, but refuses to declare war against Bulgaria, Roumania's bitterest foe. The same is true of those who insist that the President should not have expressed sympathy for the starving and brutalized Armenians without urging a declaration of war against Turkey. It is entirely proper for the government to extend such assistance to the Roumanians and to express its horror at the wretchedness of the Armenians without first recognizing the existence of a state of war between the United States and Turkey and Bulgaria. President Wilson has not hesitated to act once his course has seemed clear, and he may be expected to act in this instance when the circumstances demand it.

Congressman Tinkham, who recently fired an Italian gun at an Austrian position, now is regarded as a "franctireur" and liable to death if captured. We know many Congressmen who have been called worse than that and have escaped execution.

Some women doubtless will heed the advice of the authorities and wear their skirts shorter and tighter for economy, and then spend twice as much as formerly on hosiery and footwear.

The percentage of alcohol in beer, having been reduced 50 per cent, some patriots, yearning to increase the revenue, will feel obliged to drink twice as much.

The price of sugar is scheduled to drop after New Year's. A good deal of it will go down in Christmas goodies.

Another incendiary war factory fire is evidence that not yet have all alien enemies been interned.

Kerensky may come back, but it will be a

SEEN ON THE SIDE

Two a week before Christmas, and all through his cash Daddy fumbled and mumbled and tumbled the For he knew that he'd have to play Santa

again, And the high cost of living had tightened the strain./ First he counted his bills, turned them all in-

side out With a puzzled expression akin to a doubt, Counted over and over the vanishing pile, Tried his very doggondest to coax up a smile,

And the more he recounted the more he despaired. For his audit a cousin to bankruptcy bared, And the stack that last year was heroic and

proud

Didn't strut so triumphant nor bellow so loud. Just a week before Christmas, and daddy was As he counted and totaled the money he had,

As he saw with dismay at the point of his pen How a dollar had shrunk to the size of a yen! There were presents to buy for the circle of home

That appeared to demand the resources of Nome: There were presents to purchase for relatives,

And he had to give many, receiving so few-And he grunted and growled as he counted his

stack With remorse in his heart and a pain in his back,

And the most he could make of the final report Was an unpleasant day in the Bankruptcy Court!

And 'tis blessed, more blessed, to give than re-Which is something poor daddy tries hard to believe

As he counts up his money and tortures his soul With the high cost of eggs, sugar, clothing and coal!

Charcoal Eph's Daily Thought.

"Dat sure was some turkey," said Charcoal Eph, regretfully, "but I cyarn't he'p wishin' I was a camel, suh. Try some chops, Mistah Jackson.'

Nobody Knows.

Nobody knows whence the scent in a rose. Nobody knows where a vanished flame goes; And why babies bite at their infantile toes Nobody knows.

In Advance.

We wish to beat the crowd to it by remarking that for 1918 we are in favor of a safe, insane Fourth of July.

Beyond Hope.

"Ay, lad, puir Sandy was thot sick he wudna take a wee drap whusky for his vitals!" "O mon, mon! He ha' na muckle chance, then!"

Usually.

"This world," said the lecturer, "is inhabited principally by two kinds of people."
"That's right," said the little fellow in the rear, "and I've no use for the other kind."

The Dead One.

He was not a good fellow; he never drank Till he carned the name of a Human Tank-He never sat up till the gray of dawn, Asking himself where his chips had gone; He never was heard to relate a tale That would bring the blush to a North Sea He wasn't a sport!

He was sociable, too: but he didn't care For the corner saloon nor the company there, And he never was known to wager a cent On any description of sporting event. He wore good clothes as well as the rest, But he never went in for a fancy vest. He wasn't a sport!

When his work was finished, he didn't roam From bar to bar, but he went straight home, Pleasant and happy, and full of life, To play with the children and kiss the wife. At the table, when all was in its place, He bowed his head, and he said the grace.

He didn't get rich-that wasn't his game. He loved his life, and he lived the same In his quiet way; went to church on Sunday And back to his work, content, on Monday; Worked when he worked, played when he played, Happy and healthy and unafraid, And he wasn't a sport!

Health Talks, by Dr. Wm. Brady (Copyright, 1917, by National Newspaper Service.) The Underfed Baby.

When a baby fails to gain four ounces in weight each week, or approximately a pound a month, after the first week, whether breast-fed or bottle-fed, the baby is underfed. or bottle-fed, the baby is underfed.

In the case of a nursing baby this may be due to insufficient milk or to milk of a poor quality. In a baby that is underfed there are naturally no evidences of indigestion, yet a failure to increase a few ounces in weight each week, or, what is worse, an actual loss of weight.

A suggestive symptom of underfeeding is marked constipation. In a breast-fed baby constant constipation usually signifies underfeed. stant constipation usually signifies underfeed-ing, provided the baby has not been habituated to castor oil or rectal injections or suppositories, An underfed baby is generally "good," perhaps An underfed baby is generally "good," perhaps "too good," sometimes to the degree of listlessness or apathy. After a time the baby becomes pale, weak, cool to the touch, emaclated, with soft, sunken abdomen, depressed fontanelle (soft spot in skull).

Excessive crying, despite the popular belief, is seldom a symptom of underfeeding, but rather of overfeeding.

In an underfed baby the stools are likely to be greenish-brown and slimy (excessive amount of mucus present).

mucus present). Bables cheated out of their birthright and raised on such inadequate and unnatur raised on such madeduate and unnatural things as various forms of milk that come in powder form may be excessively fat (owing to the great excess of sugars in such foods), yet badly nourished (owing to the absence of a reasonable proportion of live fat). Live milk fat (that is, the cream in milk which has not been sterilized or the faturized) control of the faturized. Pasteurized) contains an indispensable con-uent of a normal diet, namely, vitamine amine is a crystalline substance, soluble in Vitamine is a crystalline substance, soluble in fat or in water, which the animal body must have in order to perform its functions normally. Feed which does not supply this vital principle cannot properly nourish the body for any considerable time—scurvy, rickets, pellagra and numerous other serious conditions probably depend upon inadequate vitamines in the diet. This vital difference between clean, fresh, raw milk and Pasteurized, sterilized, condensed or boiled milk must be borne in mind by every mother who is so unfortunate as to be unable

other who is so unfortunate as to be unable nurse her baby. If certified milk or other holesome milk were three times as expensive at present, it would still be an economical ctor in the child's diet. Questions and Answers.

Ridneys Again.—I am troubled with what I suppose is catarrh of the kidneys and bladder. My symptoms are as follows: The secretion is cloudy, amber in color, and deposits a noticeable whitish or sometimes reddish sediment on standiny. The color is normal when I drink much water; that is, it is then clear amber or clear white. There is no unpleasant sensation or frequency, but often the odor is noticeable.

HIRAM.

HIRAM Answer.—Hiram, your symptoms are universal among the civilized race, we fancy, and they indicate that you eat heartily and enjoy pretty good health. Perhaps you eat a little more than you really need, or drink a little less water than is good for you.

High Game and the Life in Cheese.—Should venison and wild fowl be permitted to become discolored and offensive in odor before it is cooked? Can modern science uphold the idea of letting game grow "high" before eating it? Isn't this idea on a par with the old one of maggots in cheese? My husband and son, both deceased, were physicians of the modern school,

so you may imagine how greatly I enjoy your articles. Answer.—No, science cannot uphold the eating of putrescent flesh. The life in cheese is microscopic—bacteria, yeasts and molds. They give it its good flavor. Just as lactic acid producing bacteria give buttermilk or fermented milk its flavor. A man who partock of a duck four years old (cold storage) fell ill right afterward and succumbed to suppuration of the recepitaculum chylac. We don't think ancient game is safe to eat.

Books and Authors

John Lane Co. announces for early publication "Emily Does Her Best," by Mrs. Horace Tremblett, author of "Giddy Mrs. Goodyer," etc. Mrs. Tremblett places her new story in South Africa at the outbreak of the present war. The conventionally brought-up Emily, fresh from England, is the unconscious author of many amusing complications. The story incidentally throws many sidelights on the war from the South African point of view.

Yarns of the track, recently issued by Doran Co.

Holworthy Hall, whose new book, "Dormie One," was recently published by The Century Company, is evidently a firm believer in the element of luck in daily life. In proof of this we quote the following passage from his unique collection of golf stories: "When you come right down to the determining factors in any man's success or failure, you can't eliminate luck. I defy you to eliminate it! Take the Duke of Wellington. Where would be his place in history if Napoleon had ordered a different menu? Or, if you follow the other theory, if Grouchy hadn't been deaf; or if his guide hadn't been stunid. Take Newton, and suppose his apple hadn't fallen until the next day. Take Watt; if his mother hadn't made him watch the kettle. Take Columbus; if a bit of driftwood hadn't floated along. What would have been the result? A Continental empire, a country schoolteacher, a village blacksmith, and a murder on the high seas."

Current Editorial Comment

The opinion, growing rapidly in Washington, that the war tax in Washington, that the war tax in law passed by Congress at the recent special session must be rewritten, promises an intelligent solution of many vexatious problems. In addition to various taxes known to be either unjust or unwise, certain sections of the act are so involved and contradictory that they defy construction. This is true in particular of the clauses relating to excess profits. If the authorship of the measure could be traced to any one man, it is possible that he might explain his meaning, but as this masterpiece of verbal convolution resulted from the unintelligent patchwork of a conference committee, it defies analysis even by legal experts. What was supposed to provide a tax upon excess profits is hardly worthy of the name. It hits some people and misses others, often the wrong ones in both cases, and by its clumsy attempt to make a basis for the tax it discriminates outrageously against true capital and is exceedingly favorable to all enterprises whose financial resources embrace quantities of water. A law that cannot be understood is fundamentally wrong. There is no reason why a tax of any kind should be a matter of guesswork, Nobody is resisting war taxes, but they ought to be plainly as well as fairly written in the fewest and simplest words.—New York World.

Russia is not to perish without
Hope a struggle on the part of the honorable and intelligent clements among her people to save Russia her. That is the meaning of the revoit headed by General Kaledines; and there is ground for hope in the very deliberation with which he has moved. He has been consolidating his position for months, evidently with the determination that his movement should be no flash in the pan, like Kornitoff's. There is every reason to believe that many of the recent declarations of independency on the part of different portions of Russia have been in preparation for this great effort of Russian sanity to resume control. The Ukrainian republic, for example, is obviously working with Kaledines, and the provisional government of Siberia is anparently moving in the same discretainly our ally as the Bolsheviki are certainly our ally as the Bolsheviki are certainly our malignant and unscrupulous enemies, would have vast potentialities. It is not out of the range of possibilities that his resolute forces could so inspire a Russia which have been lost to Germany could be regained. The mere fear of such an event would arrest the preparations which Germany is making to break through the French lines. At this moment, thanks-to the treachery of the momentary Russian "government." Christendom is menaced with a danger which had been thought to smash through the western front and conquer France. From this danger Kaledinos may be able to rescue Europe. In whatever he does to that each he should have not merely the good wishes of the allies, but their prompt and every ceitic action at any noise the will all him.

Lie Las does not admit aliens to lovel states does not admit aliens to lovel states in the present war have lately states in the present war have lead states in the present war have lately states in the present war have lately states in the present war he able to rescue Europe. In whatever he does to that end he should have not merely the good wishes of the allies, but their prompt and ener-getic action at any point where it will sid him. At the moment it looks as if the first of these points was Vladivostok.—New York Times,

News of Fifty Years Ago 'From the Richmond Dispatch, Dec. 15, 1867.)

The editors' convention at the Ballard House

During the last few days the citizens of Richmond have been treated to every variety of weather. Thursday there was a thunderstorm—something very rare for December—and this was followed by a drizzling rain and a cold spell. Towards night a hailstorm came along, and this, in turn, was followed yesterday morning by a heavy fall of snow. The thermometer went down to 26, and before night there was fairly good sleighing.

At the editorial banquet at the Ballard last

At the editorial banquet at the Ballard last night James A. Cowardin, of the Dispatch, presided over the festivities. The toasts were: "Virginia." R. E. Withers, of the Lynchburg News; "The Union and the Constitution," James McDonald, of the Whig; "Andrew Johnson, President of the United States," Robert Glass, of the Lynchburg Republican; "The Women of Virginia," W. D. Coleman, of the Enquirer; "Conservative Press of Virginia," L. Q. Washington, of the National Intelligencer. In the United States Senate yesterday a bill was presented for preventing polygamy and other abuses in Utah.

other abuses in Utan.

A memorial from the New York Chamber of Commerce for the resumption of the specie payments was presented in the Senate yesterday. Forty employees, mostly women, were dis-harged from the Agricultural Department yes-

Cornelius Vanderbilt, of New York, formerly the navigator of a Hudson River ferry-boat, has been elected president of the New York Cen-tral Railroad.

Democracy in Virginia

A most interesting story appeared in the "News of Fifty Years Ago" on this page yesterday. It was a brief account of the completion of the work of the

The work of this convention was the laying of the foundation upon which Virginia Democratis were not was builded the Democratic party of to march under the Whig flag. was builded the Democratic party of Virginia, which for a half a century now, with the exception of two years negro alliance, embolden by its triumph when the Readjuster party, under the leadership of General William Mahone, control of affairs in the coming consticontrolled political affairs, has successfully piloted the ship of State to plan for the complete and permanent the satisfaction of and for the good political subjugation of the white peo-

passive opposition throughout the Conservative Party of Virginia was State, for the simple reason that the chosen. The Conservative party fought its

Information Eureau.

Inquiries regarding almost any topic. excepting on legal and medical subjects, are answered free. As all inquiries are answered directly by personal letter a self-addressed, stamped envelope is required. Address The Times-Dispatch Information Bureau, Richmond, Va

Negro Enlistments in Navy. H. G., Richmond.—The navy is en-listing negroes as firemen and mess attendants. Application may be made at the nearest navy recruiting station.

Mrs. G. W. G., Hampton.—Your local book dealer will probably be able to supply you with the kind of rlay you want, or else furnish you with, the name of a publisher of such plays.

H. E. C., Kidd's Fork.—The county would have to institute condemnation proceedings and secure an order from the court before it could take possession of your gravel bed for road building purposes.

N. W., Chatham.—The "Big Ten" football conference is composed of the following universities: Illinois, Minnesota, Chicago, Wisconsin, Indiana, Michigan, Iowa, Ohlo, Perdue and Northwestern, Michigan re-entered the "Big Ten" conference this season after withdrawing from it a number of years ago. of years ago.

Aliens and the Civil Service.

L. Z.. South Richmond.—No, the United States does not admit aliens to civil service positions, except that natives of countries allied with the United States in the present war have lately been considered eligible for some positions in the government service. Persons who have taken out first citizenship papers are still citizens of their native country, but in this country their status is that of a declarant.

T. C. S., Culpeper.—All United States government bonds are issued in two forms. Coupon bonds which have interest coupons attached, and registered bonds, which are recorded in the owner's name and interest sent regularry to him. About 118,000,000 old 4 percent bonds, issued in 1895 and due in 1925, are outstanding—the only 4 percent bonds of the United States in existence before the recent Liberty bond issue. The old 4 per cent bonds are worth more than the Liberty 4 percent bonds because they are free from all taxation and have an earlier maturity. Government Bonds.

The editors' convention at the Ballard House yesterday was largely attended by the newspaper men of the State. J. H. Kelly, of the Fredericksburg Heraid, presided, and the Associated Press of Virginia was the name given to the organization, which is to become a permanent institution. The following editors were appointed a committee to draft a constitution and by-laws and to report at a future meeting to be held within the next few months: Mr. Cowardin, of the Dispatch; Mr. McDonaid, of the Whig; Mr. Coleman, of the Enquirer; Mr. Sociated Press, of the Norfolk Day Book, and Mr. Button, of the Lynchburg Virginian.

Yesterday General Schofield sent an order to the Treasurer of Virginia authorizing and directing the payment of the mileage and perdiem of the members of the Constitutional Convention itself.

In the United States Circuit Court yesterday Frederick H. Bruce, of Rappahannock, and James Wood, of Danville, were appointed United States commissioners.

Waller R. Staples, of Montgomery; J. P. Fitzgerald, of Prince Edward; Harrison Robertson, of Danville; G. T. Goolrick, of Fredericksburg; William M. Tredway, Jr., of Plitsylvania, and T. E. Buford, of Brunswick, groaned over the Underwood-invented oath and thus qualified to practice law in the United States courts.

Correct bonds of the United States in existence before the recent Liberty bond issuece before the recent Liberty bond issuece before the recent Liberty bond issuece werth more than the Liberty 4 per cent bonds because they are from the provide in the obload because they are from the unity.

Deer Shedding Antiers.

W. S., Big Stone Gap.—A deer sheds his antiers each yeer, the fully form the pair becoming detached if x antiers.

W. S., Big Stone Gap.—A deer sheds his antiers a marked circulation of unity.

W. S., Big Stone Gap.—A deer sheds his antiers and unity.

W. S., Big Stone Gap.—A deer sheds his antiers and unity.

Origin of Petroleum.

W. C. J., Fork Union.—Petroleum is considered by most geologists to have been derived by the destructive distillation of either animal or vegetable matter contained in the rocks. The products of this distillation have in some cases accumulated in the strata in which they were formed, while in others they have escaped upward into the overlying beds, in some instances even reaching the surface. The age of the earth is determined, approximately, of course, by its geological formations, and petroleum occurs in all geological formations, from the lower Silurian or Ordovician up to the Tertiary; it is chiefly of importance in the Silurian. Devonian and Tertiary rocks. The name "Gotham" is suggestive of simple or foolish people. Irving in his "Salmatundi" applied the name Gothamte to the inhabitants of New York, and it has since clung to them, and the name Gotham to the city. Georgia gets its name, "Cracker State," from the poor whites, who for more than a century have been called "Crackers," chiefly because they subsisted on corn. It is to be assumed that President Wilson has postponed asking Congress for a declaration of a state of war with Bulgaria and Turkey, for political reasons which might ultimately work to our military advantage.

"Conservative State Convention," neighbor the Satisfaction with the down-trodden in this city on December 12 and 13, sympathy with the down-trodden Southerners, and anxious to grant them at least some political rights, and the Virginia Democrats were not willing

The radical-Republican-carpetbagger-negro alliance, embolden by its triumph control of affairs in the coming constitutional convention, commenced to conventionally brought-up Emily, fresh from England, is the unconscious author of many amusing complications. The story incidentally throws many sidelights on the war from the South African point of view.

The only way for the American National Army following the practical experience of the British in training their millions of raw recruits. The will both get ahead faster if they also a book while explains the European methods of rounding new men into Shape. It is hard for even the experienced of the plants of the Southern Confederacy. At the same the European methods of rounding new men into Shape, It is hard for even the experienced of fighting as a officer to comprehend conditions of fighting as a first of the state of t

State, for the simple reason that the white people were not organized; the ante-bellum Whigs and Democrats had not gotten together and too many of most gotten together and too many of wood-Hunnicutt combination, succeedable features of the constitution, the radical gang tried to thrust upon this State, and elected Gilbert C. Walker, Governor, defeating Wells, the carpet-bagger, and restoring Virginia to the control of the real people.

Thus it happens that the story told yesterday morning in the "News of Fifty Years Ago" is an account of the birth of the present Democratic party in Virginia, which, with the exception of the short period noted above, has since controlled the political destiny of Virginia. How well and how faithfully it has discharged the obligations placed upon it a half a century ago is but the history of Virginia, familiar to every

Voice of the People

Letters must give the name and address of the writer. Name will not be published if writer so requests.

Why Not More Farmers?

Why Not More Farmers?

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch:
Sir,—We hear a great deal about
taxing land heavily as a cure for every
ill. Would this make people settle on
it any faster? Look at the abandoned farms of the Eastern and Southern
States, In many cases the owners had
to do this to keep from starving. To
grow pine trees is about all much of
this land is fit for. After timber is
cut, it is worthless until another crop
grows, which is about thirty years.
A great hue and cry is made about
the destruction of the forests; but people have to cut timber when far too ple have to cut timber when far too small. A few good size trees on a piece of land are made the excuse for an enormous assessment.

If it is so profitable, why is not farming carried on by companies like manufacturing? Those who talk the

most take cure not to engage in it. H. T. FAUNTLEROY. New Kent, Va., December 10, 1917.

Heeding the Distress Call.

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch:
Sir—Two particularly impressive
ite appeared in your paper recently.
One was the ready responsiveness to
your "Ten Opportunities," whereby one
good man sent in his check to cover
the total amount necessary to relieve
the distress of the ten families. The
other was a telegraphic dispatch from
another city reciting a sad instance of

the total amount necessary to relieve the distress of the ten families. The other was a telegraphic dispatch from another city reciting a sad instance of relief arriving too late. An unfortunate woman had bravely battled to keep her children comfortable without disclosing to the world her pitiable condition as a result of her husband's desertion, and the distressing situation was not realized by the responsive community until the poor woman had contracted an illness which resulted in her death.

As we near the beautiful Christmastide, when the heart of all nature seems to beat closer to the heart of God, it is well to seek opportunities of carrying good cheer and succor to the distressed, and the most joyful Christmas will be experienced by those who best measure up to their opportunities in this regard. The Associated Charities, Salvatlen Army, and all such heipful institutions should be heartily supported. There is suffering, right here in Richmond. To-day an old and infirm lady hobbled to an institution and asked for help. Investigation disclosed that she had been forced to break up some of her chairs for fuel. Another old lady had made a fire out of her wooden bedstead. Of course, these cases of distress were relieved, but it takes money to provide the relief. The Associated Charities and such splendid institutions are diligent in their quest for cases of distress in order to alleviate suffering, but they should receive the special co-operation der to alleviate suffering, but the should receive the special co-operation of the public at the time of this cold spell, and when the Christmas bells are ringing throughout the land. W. M. BICKERS,

Richmond, Va., December 13, 1917.

Motoring at Night in the Country. Over the city's doorstep, Where the paving comes to an end. We slip with a jar of the throbbing

And then with a cough of the horn we On the road where the willows bend.

The city was hot and brilliant, It is cool out here and dark. There's only the light of the star-sown night.

And away at the back of a farmhouse black A solitary spark.

Damp and fragrant the medows, And wide and dim as time; There are wraiths in the air! Their fingers, their hair, Are brushing my face, as madly we

race To the foot of the long, slow climb. Up we wind through the forest! Up till the top we gain!

Then a pale surprise in the eastern As down we dip like a plunging ship To the luminous waves of the plain.

For across the silent reaches Of that radiant world, it seems, From the old, old moon, by the stars Sets sail, through the bright soft sea

and of the night, A silver fleet of dreams. O, world of sweet white magic, All drenched in a dew of light! This monster of brass and of iron and

of gas Is carrying me into Aready,
By a country road at night, -Mary B. Mullett, in New York Sun.